

# Synopsys Expands Portfolio of ARC Processors for Safety-Critical Automotive Applications to Include DSP and Cache Support

ASIL D Ready Certified ARC EM Processors with Safety Enhancement Package Accelerate ISO 26262 Certification Time by up to Six Months

**Disclaimer: GlobalFoundries acquired the Synopsys Processor Solutions business on June 1, 2026. [Click here to learn more.](#)**

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## Highlights:

- Automotive safety support extended to DesignWare ARC EM processors with DSP and cache configurations to enable smart automotive sensors and controllers
- ASIL D Ready certified ARC EM processors with Safety Enhancement Package integrate safety-critical hardware features including error-correcting code, parity support, user-programmable watchdog timer and lockstep interface
- The Safety Enhancement Package for ARC EM Processors includes extensive safety documentation and collateral to accelerate SoC-level ASIL D certification process
- ASIL D Ready ARC MetaWare Compiler streamlines development of ISO 26262-compliant software

Synopsys, Inc. (Nasdaq:SNPS) today announced the extension of its Safety Enhancement Package (SEP) to Synopsys' [DesignWare® ARC® EM processors](#) that include cache support and DSP acceleration. The ARC EM4, EM6, EM5D and EM7D cores, combined with the [ARC SEP option](#), have been certified ASIL D Ready by SGS-TÜV Saar, a leading independent certification company. The ultra-compact cores incorporate critical safety features such as Error-Correcting Code (ECC) and a programmable watchdog timer for detecting system failures. The SEP option adds a lockstep interface and comprehensive safety documentation that facilitate chip- and system-level ISO 26262 ASIL D compliance. In addition, software developers can accelerate the development of ISO 26262-compliant code with the ASIL D Ready certified ARC MetaWare Compiler. The ARC EM cores with SEP are designed to meet the small area and rigorous safety requirements of system-on-chips (SoCs) targeting a broad range of automotive applications including sensors, controllers and advanced driver assistance systems (ADAS).

"The increasing number of electronic systems being used for safety-critical functions in vehicles requires stringent safety standards to help prevent catastrophic failures in these systems," said Wolfgang Ruf, product manager, semiconductors at SGS-TÜV Saar GmbH. "By achieving ASIL D Ready certification for its DesignWare ARC EM processors, Synopsys is enabling automotive system designers to achieve ISO 26262 certification faster and with less effort."

All ARC EM processors are configurable and extensible to meet the unique performance, power and area requirements of each target application. ARC processors have been successfully deployed in automotive applications for years, and in 2013 Synopsys introduced the Safety Enhancement Package for ARC EM4 cores to help automotive chip designers meet the specific requirements of the ISO 26262 functional safety standard. Now, to address the evolving processing requirements in automotive applications such as motor control and sensor fusion, the SEP option is being extended to EM processors that support DSP functions and incorporate up to 32 Kbytes of instruction and data caches. In addition, the EM cores with the SEP option are the first cores in their class to be certified ASIL D Ready. The combination of the ARC EM cores' integrated hardware safety features, ASIL certification and safety-related collateral such as a Failure Modes, Effects, and Diagnostic Analysis (FMEDA) report saves automotive designers months of effort in their SoC development and ISO 26262 certification process.

The DesignWare ARC MetaWare Development Toolkit for Safety is a complete solution for developing, debugging and optimizing embedded software targeted for ARC processors. Included in the toolkit is an ASIL D Ready certified compiler and safety collateral, including a safety manual and safety guide, to help developers of safety-critical systems fulfill the requirements of the ISO 26262 standard and prepare for compliance testing.

"The use of embedded processors in automobiles is growing rapidly, and achieving functional safety certification of these processor-based systems is essential for automotive designers," said John Koeter, vice president of marketing for IP and prototyping at Synopsys. "By providing an extensive portfolio of ASIL Ready DesignWare IP, including the silicon-proven ARC EM processors with SEP option and software development tools, Synopsys helps designers accelerate the development and qualification of automotive SoCs."

## Availability & Resources

The ASIL D Ready certified DesignWare ARC EM4, EM6, EM5D and EM7D cores with SEP package, and the MetaWare

Toolkit for Safety are available now.

Synopsys provides a broad portfolio of IP that offers ASIL B Ready and ASIL D Ready certification, AEC-Q100 testing and TS 16949 quality management, in addition to virtual prototyping solutions for automotive. For more information, visit: [www.synopsys.com/ip-automotive](http://www.synopsys.com/ip-automotive) and [www.synopsys.com/autovdk](http://www.synopsys.com/autovdk).

### **About DesignWare IP**

Synopsys is a leading provider of high-quality, silicon-proven IP solutions for SoC designs. The broad DesignWare IP portfolio includes logic libraries, embedded memories, embedded test, analog IP, wired and wireless interface IP, security IP, embedded processors and subsystems. To accelerate prototyping, software development and integration of IP into SoCs, Synopsys' IP Accelerated initiative offers IP prototyping kits, IP software development kits and IP subsystems. Synopsys' extensive investment in IP quality, comprehensive technical support and robust IP development methodology enables designers to reduce integration risk and accelerate time-to-market. For more information on DesignWare IP, visit <http://www.synopsys.com/designware>.

### **About Synopsys**

Synopsys, Inc. (Nasdaq:SNPS) is the Silicon to Software™ partner for innovative companies developing the electronic products and software applications we rely on every day. As the world's 16th largest software company, Synopsys has a long history of being a global leader in electronic design automation (EDA) and semiconductor IP and is also growing its leadership in software quality and security solutions. Whether you're a system-on-chip (SoC) designer creating advanced semiconductors, or a software developer writing applications that require the highest quality and security, Synopsys has the solutions needed to deliver innovative, high-quality, secure products. Learn more at [www.synopsys.com](http://www.synopsys.com).

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